

National Lighting Partner Meeting April 4-6, 2005

Jeffrey Schwartz, ICF Consulting, Former Showroom and Distributor Owner and Lead for EPA's Showroom and Distributor Initiatives

# Working with Lighting Showrooms and Electrical Distributors Electrical Distributors



 A key to working with showrooms and distributors is to understand there are many different business models



- Showrooms focused on builders and builder referred business
- Electrical distributors with lighting showrooms
- Electrical distributors with builder showrooms
- Electrical distributors with no showrooms
- Small independents
- Large chains







# **ENERGY STAR Showroom Initiative**



#### Interaction with Showrooms

- Direct Interaction
- Through the American Lighting Association (ALA) and Lighting One

#### Showroom Training

- Individual showrooms, chains, train-the-trainer, manufacturers, and rep agencies
- Presentations at ALA and Lighting One

#### Marketing and Promotional Materials







## **Showroom Successes Since 2004**



- Lighting One joined ENERGY STAR
  - 80 independently-owned showrooms in 30+ states
- 241 Showrooms signed on under ALA Partnership
- 101 showrooms participated in CAL 04
- 5 Case Studies developed
- Increased interest in stocking/selling
- Dedicated ENERGY STAR fixture displays
- Successful integration of ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures into general displays



### **Showroom Case Studies**



#### Nationwide locations, varying marketing strategies:

- Connecticut Lighting Center, Hartford, CT
- Lighting Unlimited, Ocala, FL
- Premier Lighting, Bakersfield, CA
- Philips Lighting & Home, Modesto, CA
- Seattle Lighting, WA

#### What helped them to succeed?

- Educating sales staff on ENERGY STAR benefits
- Showroom breakfast for builders and local officials
- Offering utility incentives to customers
- Teaming with manufacturers and local utilities to develop promotional flyers and/or other advertisements:
  - Dedicated and/or integrated
  - Educational materials
- Teaming with builders to install qualified lighting in model homes



## **ENERGY STAR Electrical Distributor Initiative**



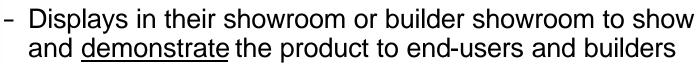
- Launched 2004. Signed up National Association of Independent Lighting Distributors (NAILD) and National Association of Electrical Distributors (NAED)
  - Attend Annual Meetings and Trade Shows
  - 90 distributor members have become ENERGY STAR partners, representing over 300 storefronts nationwide
  - Web Site List
  - ENERGY STAR articles featured in Trade pubs (Today's Lighting Distributor and TED, and Electrical Wholesaling
  - Web site training created for both NAED and NAILD
  - Marketing idea of the year for NAILD
- Working with distributors to market ENERGY STAR qualified products directly to builders

# ENERGY STAR Successful Electrical Distributors



#### Common successful elements:





- Knowledgeable salespeople to explain the products and benefits
- Complete program including:
  - Builder house packs
  - Incentives to promote the sale of ENERGY STAR qualified products
  - Promotions and advertising
  - Model home displaying ENERGY STAR qualified products
  - Hang tags identifying ENERGY STAR qualified products





### Plans for 2005



- Continue to work closely with trade associations and individual showrooms and distributors
- Offer ENERGY STAR trainings for distributors
- Promote the on-line training and web site list
- Continue to develop marketing and promotional materials
  - Possibly develop case studies highlighting business success of ENERGY STAR distributors
- Encourage increased participation in ENERGY STAR National Campaigns for Partners with consumer showrooms